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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELABORATING AND REPRESENTING DATA ANALYSIS IN A DECISION SUPPORT SYSTEM

(57) Abstract

The invention relates to a method and to an apparatus for elaborating and representing data analysis in a decision support system. The system comprises an electronic data base which is daily updated; a data server managing said data base and comprising linking interfaces to allow online and/or batch connections to external data suppliers or providers and display means for displaying information and data and for allowing the user to define data selection criteria. The method includes five steps. First, on said display means a selection panel or menu reporting a list or table of data from said data base is presented. Second, a pointer of a user's data selection is detected. Third, the data base is scanned according to a mask or filter selected by the user. Fourth, on said display means a view or history chart showing to the user the variations versus time of the selected data is presented while maintaining the selection panel as a side or background view. Fifth, automatically and immediately said view or history chart is refreshed at each different detected pointer of the user's data selection. Advantageously, a plurality of different information data may be selected one after the other through said selection panel and a corresponding plurality of history charts are shown on said display means with the same time base and in an overlapping format.